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Date: 10/2/2014 12:51:56 PM

Subject: OPA Afternoon Clips - 10/2/14

KWMU St. Louis Public Radio – Environmental Activist to Address Bridgeton Landfill Concerns – 10/2/14 - Environmental activist Lois Gibbs will be in St. Louis this weekend for a “teach-in” to address problems at the adjoining Bridgeton and West Lake landfills, located in Bridgeton a few miles from Lambert Airport. <http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/environmental-activist-address-bridgeton-landfill-concerns>

St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Lois Gibbs of Love Canal fame to speak on West Lake Landfill - 10/2/14 - In the 1970s, Lois Gibbs battled an environmental hazard in her New York neighborhood of Love Canal, leading to an evacuation and a national crisis. Now Gibbs says something similar could happen to the area near the radioactive West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton. http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/lois-gibbs-of-love-canal-fame-to-speak-on-west/article_9bbc5f0f-bd66-5a4c-8ff5-3b3a335c9ecf.html

KBIA Mid-Missouri Public Radio - Skepticism surrounds new Clean Water Act proposal - 10/2/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Army Corps of Engineers released a draft proposal aimed to strengthen the protection for clean water. However, many farmers and groups are skeptical about the proposed rule. The rule would expand federal authority over “waters of the United States.” <http://kbja.org/post/skepticism-surrounds-new-clean-water-act-proposal>

Drovers CattleNetwork - EPA, American Farm Bureau Federation disagree on water rule - 10/1/14 - Recent statements by the Environmental Protection Agency regarding the latest Clean Water Act rulemaking violate basic open-government requirements, a group of 63 business and agriculture organizations told the EPA and Congress. The resulting failure to comply with the Administrative Procedures Act is so egregious, the Waters Access Coalition said, the agency should withdraw the rule altogether. <http://www.cattlenetwork.com/cattle-news/EPA-American-Farm-Bureau-Federation-disagree-on-water-rule-277735251.html>

Ag Professional - Study suggests more waters may deserve federal protection - 9/30/14 - Federal environmental law can be tricky business. Defining which bodies of water are protected by the federal Clean Water Act can impact the permits required for someone developing their land, especially when wetlands could be affected. <http://www.agprofessional.com/news/Study-suggests-more-waters-may-deserve-federal-protection-277600411.html>

E&E News PM - SBA advocacy office urges Obama admin to withdraw rule proposal - 10/1/14 - An independent office within the Small Business Administration says the Obama administration incorrectly concluded that a controversial Clean Water Act proposal would have minimal impacts on small businesses and is calling for it to be withdrawn. <http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/2014/10/01/stories/1060006748>

Des Moines Register - Letter: Governor has ignored voices of Iowans - 10/2/14 - Iowans want a clean-water governor, not one who consistently carries [dirty] water for the corporate ag industry. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/readers/2014/10/02/iowans-want-clean-water-governor-one-consistently-carries-dirty-water-corporate-ag-industry/16568475/>

Inside Climate - Open Pits Offer Cheap Disposal for Fracking Sludge, but Health Worries Mount - 10/2/14 - A 1988 federal rule exempts oil waste from a 'hazardous' designation, allowing for lax disposal methods that could expose people to dangerous emissions. <http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20141002/open-pits-offer-cheap-disposal-fracking-sludge-health-worries-mount>

Des Moines Register

Letter: Governor has ignored voices of Iowans

10/2/14

They ought to quit shouting and start listening to the people who will be most affected." That was Gov. Branstad's retort [Sept. 30] to some pesky protesters who were out in force at an industry-sponsored meeting Monday in Des Moines. The governor and his big-money friends were complaining about a clean-water rule being proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Funny thing is, the "people most affected" by Iowa's clean water crisis are the very people Branstad has deliberately ignored, and not listened to, for years. Hundreds of thousands of Iowans have had to put up with Branstad's legacy:

- 748 manure spills since 1996.
- 630 polluted waterways as of 2012.
- Toxic algae blooms and high nitrates in our lakes and rivers.
- 20 million corporate hogs producing the waste equivalent of 45 million people.

Iowans want a clean-water governor, not one who consistently carries [dirty] water for the corporate ag industry.

— Hugh Espey, executive director, Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement Action Fund, Des Moines